2001 - 2002 LEGISLATURE

Thurday 12-6-01

2001 BILL

LRB-3642/4 2 RJM:cjs:rs

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1 AN ACT to renumber 224.71 (1c); to amend 224.72 (4m) (title), 224.72 (4m) (a)

(title), 224.72 (4m) (b) (title), 224.72 (5) (b), 224.77 (1m) (a), 224.80 (1) and

224.80 (2) (a) 1/, and to create 224.71 (1d), 224.72 (4m) (c), 224.72 (7) (c) 3.,

224.72 (7p) and 224.79 of the statutes; relating to: qualifications for a

mortgage broker registration, consumer mortgage brokerage agreements,

granting rule making authority, and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law requires mortgage brokers to be registered with the division of banking in the department of financial institutions (division). Generally, a mortgage broker is a person who, on behalf of another person and for a commission, finds a loan that is secured by a mortgage. Current law does not require an applicant for a mortgage broker registration to have any specific knowledge with regard to the laws and regulations relating to mortgage brokering.

This bill requires an applicant for a mortgage broker registration to satisfactorily complete an examination in the law of mortgage brokering. Under the bill, any person who is currently registered as a mortgage broker, mortgage banker, or loan originator (generally, a person who finds a loan on behalf of a mortgage broker or mortgage banker) is exempt from the examination requirement. This bill also requires a mortgage broker to receive at least 16 hours of education in the law of mortgage brokering during each two—year registration period. The bill permits a

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person other than the division to administer the required examination and provide the required education. The division, by rule, must establish requirements for the approval of the content of the examination and the curriculum of the education and for the approval of any persons other than the division who administer the examination or provide the education.

This bill also requires every brokerage agreement between a mortgage broker and a consumer to be in writing, in the form prescribed by rule of the division, and to contain all information required by rule of the division. Under the bill, the division must promulgate these rules for the purpose of facilitating the comparison of similar charges and total charges assessed by different mortgage brokers. The bill also requires a mortgage broker to give a consumer a disclosure statement which contains a brief explanation of the relationship between the consumer and the mortgage broker under the brokerage agreement and the manner in which the mortgage broker may be compensated, and any additional information required by rule of the division. The mortgage broker must explain the content of the disclosure statement and ensure that the consumer initials or signs the statement, acknowledging that the consumer has read and understands the statement. Under the bill, a consumer generally means an individual who seeks or acquires mortgage brokerage services for personal, family, or household purposes. Current law does not contain any similar provisions with regard to mortgage brokers.

This bill also raises the maximum potential forfeiture (civil penalty) for certain violations of the mortgage brokering law from \$1,000 to \$2,000, the maximum potential fine and imprisonment (criminal penalties) for acting as a mortgage broker without a valid registration from \$1,000 and six months to \$2,000 and nine months, and the maximum potential liability of a mortgage broker in certain private causes of action from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 224.71 (1c) of the statutes is renumbered 224.71 (1e).

Section 2. 224.71 (1d) of the statutes is created to read:

224.71 (1d) "Consumer" means a person other than an organization, as defined in s. 421.301 (28), who seeks or acquires mortgage brokerage services for personal, family, or household purposes.

SECTION 3. 224.72 (4m) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.72 (4m) (title) Additional requirement requirements for mortgage

BROKER APPLICANT.

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| 1 | SECTION 4. | 224.72 (4m) (a) (title) of the statutes is amended to re | ead: |
|---|------------|--|------|
|---|------------|--|------|

224.72 (4m) (a) (title) With a Special requirement for applicant with bona fide office.

Section 5. 224.72 (4m) (b) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.72 (4m) (b) (title) Without a Special requirement for applicant without bona fide office.

SECTION 6. 224.72 (4m) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

224.72 (4m) (c) Competency examination. In addition to the requirements of sub. (2) and pars (a) and (b), as applicable, and except as otherwise provided under this paragraph, an applicant for registration as a mortgage broker shall satisfactorily complete an examination in the law of mortgage brokering, consistent with rules promulgated by the division under sub. (7p). If the examination is administered by a person other than the division, the applicant shall submit to the division evidence satisfactory to the division that the applicant has satisfactorily completed the examination. This paragraph does not apply to an applicant who holds a certificate of registration as a mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or loan originator, issued by the division, for at least 3 years preceding the date of application.

SECTION 7. 224.72 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.72 (5) (b) Mortgage banker and mortgage broker. Except as provided in sub. (7m), upon receiving a properly completed application for registration as a mortgage banker or a mortgage broker, and the fee specified in rules promulgated under sub. (8) and satisfactory evidence of upon an applicant's compliance with subs. (4) and (4m), as applicable, the division may issue to the applicant a certificate of registration as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker.

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information required by rule of the division. The division shall promulgate rules to administer this subsection. The division shall design these rules to facilitate the comparison of similar charges and total charges assessed by different mortgage brokers.

- (2) Consumer disclosure statement. Before entering into a contract with a consumer to provide brokerage services, a mortgage broker shall give the consumer a copy of a consumer disclosure statement, explain the content of the statement, and ensure that the consumer initials or signs the statement, acknowledging that the consumer has read and understands the statement. The consumer disclosure statement shall contain a brief explanation of the relationship between the consumer and the mortgage broker under the proposed contract, a brief explanation of the manner in which the mortgage broker may be compensated under the proposed contract, and any additional information required by rule of the division. The division shall promulgate rules to administer this subsection and, by rule, shall specify the form and content of the consumer disclosure statement required under this subsection.
 - SECTION 12. 224.80 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
- 224.80 (1) PENALTIES. A person who violates s. 224.72 (1m) may be fined not more than \$1,000 \$2,000 or imprisoned for not more than 6 9 months or both. The district attorney of the county where the violation occurs shall enforce the penalty under this subsection on behalf of the state.
- SECTION 13. 224.80 (2) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

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224.80 (2) (a) 1. Twice the amount of the cost of loan origination connected with the transaction, except that the liability under this subdivision may not be less than

\$100 nor greater than $\$1,000 \ \underline{\$2,000}$ for each violation.

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(END)

2001–2002 DRAFTING INSERT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

INSERT ANALYSIS

This bill makes various changes to the laws governing mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers. Significant changes include:

Licensed lenders that engage in mortgage banking or mortgage brokering

Current law requires mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers to be registered with the division of banking in the department of financial institutions (division). Generally, a mortgage banker is a person who originates loans that are secured by mortgages (mortgage loans), sells or services mortgage loans, sells land contracts, or provides escrow services. A mortgage broker is generally a person who, on behalf of another person and for a commission, finds a mortgage loan. Typically, mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers are institutions, not individuals. There are several exemptions from the current definitions of "mortgage banker" and "mortgage broker," including certain lending institutions licensed by the division (licensed lenders).

This bill deletes the exemptions for licensed lenders, thereby requiring licensed lenders who engage in mortgage banking or mortgage brokering to be registered with the division. The bill requires these licensed lenders to obtain a registration no later than the 60th day after the bill becomes law.

Competency examinations and continuing education

This bill establishes competency examination and continuing education requirements applicable to certain agents of mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers. Current law does not contain any such requirements. This bill requires each mortgage banker and mortgage broker to designate at least one principal representative who is in charge of the business operations of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker. The bill requires each principal representative, each person who finds or negotiates a mortgage loan for or on behalf of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker, and certain other agents of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker to pass a written test covering primary and subordinate mortgage financing transactions and the laws regulating mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers. These requirements must be satisfied as a condition of the division approving an application for registration as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker or for renewal of registration.

This bill also requires each mortgage banker and mortgage broker, as a condition of renewing its registration, to demonstrate that each principal representative, each person who finds or negotiates a mortgage loan for or on behalf of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker, and certain other agents of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker have successfully completed at least 14 hours of education covering primary and subordinate mortgage financing transactions and the laws regulating mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers. These hours of education must be completed during the two years preceding the date of the application for renewal of registration.

The division, by rule, must establish the content of the competency examination and program of continuing education and must establish standards for approving persons who administer the competency examination or provide the continuing

education. In addition, the bill phases in the competency examination and continuing education requirements. Under the bill, the competency examination requirement first applies to persons who have applications pending with the division on July 2, 2002. The continuing education requirement first apply to applications for the registration period that begins on July 1, 2004.

Supervision of certain employees of mortgage bankers mortgage brokers

Current law specifies that mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers are responsible for, and must supervise, each person who finds or negotiates a mortgage loan for or on behalf of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker and certain other employees of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker. This bill further provides that each principal representative of a mortgage banker or mortgage broker is responsible for and must supervise these persons. The bill also provides that, in certain limited circumstances, this duty of responsibility and supervision must be satisfied by each officer or director of, or owner of at least a 10% interest in, the business of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker.

Regulation of consumer brokerage agreements

This bill requires every brokerage agreement between a mortgage broker and a consumer to be in writing, in the form prescribed by rule of the division, and to contain all information required by rule of the division. Under the bill, the division must promulgate these rules for the purpose of facilitating the comparison of similar charges and total charges assessed by different mortgage brokers. The bill also requires a mortgage broker to give a consumer a disclosure statement which contains a brief explanation of the relationship between the consumer and the mortgage broker under the brokerage agreement and the manner in which the mortgage broker may be compensated, and any additional information required by rule of the division. The mortgage broker must explain the content of the disclosure statement and ensure that the consumer initials or signs the statement, acknowledging that the consumer has read and understands the statement. Under the bill, a consumer generally means an individual who seeks or acquires mortgage brokerage services for personal, family, or household purposes. Current law does not contain any similar provisions with regard to mortgage brokers.

Penalties and limitations on liability

This bill raises the maximum potential forfeiture (civil penalty) for certain violations of the mortgage banking and mortgage brokering laws from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and increases the maximum potential liability for these violations in certain private causes of action from \$1,000 to \$2,000. The bill also raises the maximum potential fine and imprisonment (criminal penalties) for violating a registration requirement under the mortgage banking and mortgage brokering laws from \$1,000 and six months to \$2,000 and nine months.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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224.71 (3) (b) 2. A credit union which negotiates loans or any licensee under ch. 138 which negotiates loans or any licensed attorney who, incidental to the general practice of law, negotiates or offers or attempts to negotiate a loan.

History: 1987 a. 359; 1987 a. 403 s. 182; Stats. 1987 s. 440.71; 1989 a. 45; 1995 a. 27 s. 6590; Stats. 1995 s. 224.71; 1997 a. 27, 145; 2001 a. 16. SECTION 2. 224.71 (4) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

224.71 (4) (b) 2. A credit union which negotiates loans or any licensee under ch. 138 which negotiates loans or any licensed attorney who, incidental to the general practice of law, negotiates or offers or attempts to negotiate a loan.

History: 1987 a 265, 1987 a. 403 s. 182; Stats. 1987 s. 440.71; 1989 a. 45; 1995 a. 27 a. 6590; Stats. 1995 s. 224.71; 1997 a. 27, 145; 2001 a. 16.

SECTION 3. 224.71 (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read.

SECTION 4. 224.71 (4m) of the statutes is created to read:

224.71 (4m) "Principal representative" means an individual that is in charge of the business operations of a mortgage banker or mortgage broker.

SECTION 5. 224.72 (4) (e) and (f) of the statutes are created to read:

224.72 (4) (e) Competency examination. In addition to the requirements of sub.

(2) and pars. (a), (d), and (f), as applicable and except as otherwise provided under this paragraphs each principal representative designated under par. (f) by an applicant for registration as a mortgage banker and each loan originator employed by the applicant shall pass a written test covering primary and subordinate mortgage financing transactions and the provisions of this subchapter. The test shall be administered by the division's designee and shall comply with the applicable rules promulgated by the division under sub. (7p).

(f) Identity of principal representative. In addition to the requirements of sub.

(2) and pars. (a) (b) (e), as applicable, each applicant for registration as a mortgage banker shall designate at least one principal representative and shall document that the principal representative accepts the designation. If an applicant fails to make

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SPECIAL INSERT any designation under this paragraph, or if each designation is inaccurate or incomplete, each officer or director of, or owner of at least a 10% interest in, the business of the mortgage banker is deemed to be in charge of the business operations of the mortgage banker. If a person ceases to act as a principal representative, the mortgage banker shall file an amended designation under this paragraph with the division no later than the 7th day following the date on which the person ceases to act, unless the mortgage banker designated multiple principal representatives and at least one continues to act.

INSERT 3-18

SECTION 6. 224.72 (4m) (c) and (d) of the statutes are created to read:

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224.72 (4m) (c) Competency examination. In addition to the requirements of sub. (2) and pars. (a), (b), and (d), as applicable, and except as otherwise provided under this paragraph, each principal representative designated under par. (d) by an applicant for registration as a mortgage broker and each loan originator employed by the applicant shall pass a written test covering primary and subordinate mortgage financing transactions and the provisions of this subchapter. The test shall be administered by the division's designee and shall comply with the applicable rules promulgated by the division under sub. (7p).

(d) Identity of principal representative. In addition to the requirements of sub.

(2) and pars. (a) (c), as applicable, each applicant for registration as a mortgage broker shall designate at least one principal representative and shall document that the principal representative accepts the designation. If an applicant fails to make any designation under this paragraph, or if each designation is inaccurate or incomplete, each officer or director of, or owner of at least a 10% interest in, the

business of the mortgage broker is deemed to be in charge of the business operations of the mortgage broker. If a person ceases to act as a principal representative, the mortgage broker shall file an amended designation under this paragraph with the division no later than the 7th day following the date on which the person ceases to act, unless the mortgage broker designated multiple principal representatives and at least one continues to act.

INSERT 3-25

SECTION 7. 224.72 (7) (b) 3. to 5. of the statutes are created to read:

X

224.72 (7) (b) 3. Submit evidence that is satisfactory to the division that, during the 2 years preceding the date of application, each principal representative designated under sub. (4) (f) and each loan originator employed by the mortgage banker has successfully completed at least 14 hours of education covering primary and subordinate mortgage financing transactions and the provisions of this subchapter, consistent with rules promulgated by the division under sub. (7p).

- 4. Designate at least one principal representative, as provided under sub. (4) (f).
- 5. Satisfy the competency examination requirements provided under sub. (4) (e).

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- 4. Designate at least one principal representative, as provided under sub. (4m) (d).
- 5. Satisfy the competency examination requirements provided under sub. (4m) (c).

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SECTION 8. 224.73 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.73 (1) RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOAN ORIGINATOR. A mortgage banker or a mortgage broker, and each principal representative designated by the mortgage banker or mortgage broker or each person deemed to be in charge of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker under s. 224.72 (4) (f) or (4m) (d), is responsible for, and shall supervise the acts of, a loan originator who registers under s. 224.72 (3) as an employee of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker. A mortgage banker or mortgage broker is also responsible for, and shall supervise the acts of, a loan originator or any other person who otherwise acts on behalf of the mortgage banker or the mortgage broker.

History: 1987 a. 359; 1987 a. 403 ss. 182, 256; Stats. 1987 s. 440.73; 1991 a. 39; 1995 a. 27 s. 6594; Stats. 1995 s. 224.73; 1997 a. 145.

SECTION 9. 224.75 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

224.75 (2m) CONTINUING EDUCATION RECORDS. A mortgage banker or mortgage broker shall keep records documenting compliance with s. 224.72 (7) (b) 3. or (c) 3., as applicable, for at least 4 years.

SECTION 10. Nonstatutory provisions.

(1) Principal representatives of current registrants and applicants. Each person that, on the effective date of this subsection, holds a certificate of registration as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker, issued by the division of banking, or has an application for such a certificate of registration pending with the division shall file with the division a designation of principal representative no later than than the 30th day following the effective date of this subsection. The designation required under this subsection shall be in the form prescribed by the division. In this

subsection, "principal representative" has the meaning given in section 224.71 (4m) of the statutes, as created by this act.

- (2) REGISTRATION OF FORMERLY EXEMPT PERSONS. Notwithstanding section 224.72 (1m) of the statutes, any licensee under chapter 138 of the statutes which satisfies the definition of "mortgage banker" or "mortgage broker" under section 224.71 (3) or (4) of the statutes, as affected by this act, shall apply for a certificate of registration under section 224.72 of the statutes, as affected by this act, no later than the 60th day following the effective date of this subsection.
- (3) POSITION INCREASE. The authorized FTE positions for the department of financial institutions are increased by 2.0 PR positions, to be funded from the appropriation under section 20.144 (1) (g) of the statutes, for the purpose of administering section 224.72 of the statutes, as affected by this act.

SECTION 11. Initial applicability.

- (1) COMPETENCY EXAMINATION. The treatment of section 224.72 (4) (e), (4m) (c), and (7) (b) 5. and (c) 5. of the statutes first applies to applications for a certificate of registration as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker that are pending with the division of banking on July 2, 2002.
- (2) CONTINUING EDUCATION. The treatment of section 224.72 (7) (b) 3. and (c) 3. of the statutes first applies to applications for a certificate of registration as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker for the registration period beginning July 1, 2004.

SPECIAL INSTRY"; 1

Section #. 224.72 (4) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.72 (4) (title) Additional REQUIREMENT FOR MORTGAGE BANKER APPLICANT.

History: 1987 a. 359; 1987 a. 403 ss. 182, 256; Stats. 1987 s. 440.72; 1989 a. 45; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 112; 1995 a. 27 ss. 6210, 6527m, 6528m, 6535m, 6591 to 6593; Stats. 1995 s. 224.72; 1995 a. 465; 1997 a. 27, 35, 145, 191, 237, 252; 1999 a. 9, 32.

REQUIREMENTS

SPECIAL INSERT "X"; 2

Section #. 224.72 (4) (a) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.72 (4) (a) (title) With a bona fide office.

History: 1987 a. 359; 1987 a. 403 ss. 182, 256; Stats. 1987 s. 440.72; 1989 a. 45; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 112; 1995 a. 27 ss. 6210, 6527m, 6528m, 6535m, 6591 to 6593; Stats. 1995 s. 224.72; 1995 a. 465; 1997 a. 27, 35, 145, 191, 237, 252; 1999 a. 9, 32.

SPECIAL DUSGA "X"; 3

Section #. 224.72 (4) (d) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

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224.72 (4) (d) (title) Without a bona fide office.

History: 1987 a. 359; 1987 a. 403 ss. 182, 256; Stats. 1987 s. 440.72; 1989 a. 45; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 112; 1995 a. 27 ss. 6210, 6527m, 6528m, 6535m, 6591 to 6593; Stats. 1995 s. 224.72; 1995 a. 465; 1997 a. 27, 35, 145, 191, 237, 252; 1999 a. 9, 32.

end INSERT "x"

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-3642/2dn RJM://:...

Representative Jeskewitz;

Attached is the mortgage banker/broker draft you requested. I have based this draft on DFI's comments and suggestions, which you provided to me. Please note that the language provided by DFI is not entirely included in this draft. I have tried to clarify the language, where possible, and have also tried to integrate the language into the existing statutory scheme. You may want to have DFI review the draft to make sure that I did not misunderstand their intent. In particular, please note the following:

1. The items concerning the designation of a principal representative have been integrated into the application process under s. 224.72, stats. I have also included a nonstatutory provision governing current registrants and applicants. Please let me know if these provisions are not consistent with your intent.

Under proposed s. 224.72 (4) (e) and and (4m) (d), if a designation of principal representative is inaccurate, incomplete, or not made, each officer or director of, or owner of at least a 10% interest in, the business of the mortgage banker or broker is deemed to be in charge of the banker's or broker's business operations. In most, if not all, cases a mortgage banker or broker will have officers or directors and owners. The proposed language does not indicate how to determine whether the officers or directors or the owners will be deemed to be in charge. Should the proposed language read instead "each officer or director of and owner of at least a 10% interest in the business?"

The principal representative language given to me by DFI contained the following: "(FI has a one—year experience requirement)." I do not know what, if anything, this language is intended to convey. Please let me know if I should have included something in the draft based upon this language.

Please review proposed s. 224.73 (1). I expanded the treatment to more fully reflect the content of the principal representative provisions.

2. I assumed that the competency examination language provided by DFI was intended to replace the language in the "/1" version of the draft. As a result, please note that this draft no longer exempts from examination persons who are registered for at least years. In order to preserve this exemption, you may want to exempt any person who passed the examination as part of the mortgage banker's or mortgage broker's previous application.

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The language provided by DFI indicated that the competency examination requirements first apply "after July 1, 2002" (i.e., on July 2, 2002). I have drafted this item as an initial applicability provision. Please review the provision to ensure that it is consistent with your intent. Any applications acted on by the division through the close of business on July 1, 2002, would be exempt from the competency examination requirements proposed in the draft.

- 3. The materials provided by DFI indicated that DFI estimates a need for at least 2 new full—time employees to administer the mortgage banking and brokering law, as affected by this draft. This bill provides 2.0 FTE PR positions for this purpose.
- 4. Your redraft instructions noted that you were considering addressing two additional issues: (a) eliminating the exemption for licensed lenders and (b) making the requirements for mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers more uniform. This draft eliminates the exemption for licensed lenders and gives licensed lenders who are currently exempt 60 days to apply for a certificate of registration. In addition, due to the language proposed by DFI, this draft imposes examination and continuing education requirements on both mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers.

Please feel free to call with any questions or if you desire any changes to the draft.

Robert J. Marchant Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 261–4454

Thone. (006) 201–4454

E-mail: robert.marchant@legis.state.wi.us

Marchant, Robert

From:

Bilot, Erin

Sent:

Friday, February 01, 2002 1:15 PM

To: Cc: Marchant, Robert 'Peg Partenfelder'

Subject:

Mortgage Brokers Draft (LRB 3642/3)

Rob,

As if you don't have enough to do, I have one additional redraft (which, I'll be quite honest, I can't promise will be the last). We need some changes in the mortgage brokers legislation. Thank you for changing the draft to affect only loan originators. Now we would like to eliminate the continuing education, but add that for license renewal the person would have to take a competency exam (it would be shorter than the initial licensing exam just to show that the licensee is current and up to date). I think that the compliance and checks of this would be the same as the initial licensing exam.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks again!

Erin Bilot Office of Suzanne Jeskewitz State Representative 24th Assembly District



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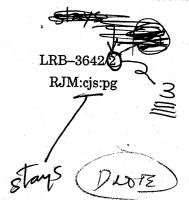
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State of Misconsin 2001 - 2002 **LEGISLATURE**





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AN ACT to renumber 224.71 (1c); to amend 224.71 (3) (b) 2., 224.71 (4) (b) 2., 224.72 (4) (title), 224.72 (4) (a) (title), 224.72 (4) (d) (title), 224.72 (4m) (title), 224.72 (4m) (a) (title), 224.72 (4m) (b) (title), 224.72 (5) (b), 224.73 (1), 224.77 (1m) (a), 224.80 (1) and 224.80 (2) (a) 1.; and to create 224.71 (1d), 224.71 (4m), 224.72 (4) (e) and (f), 224.72 (4m) (c) and (d), 224.72 (7) (b) 3. to 5., 224.72 (7) (c) 3. to 5., 224.72 (7p), 224.75 (2m) and 224.79 of the statutes; relating to: of certain agents of mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers,
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provides escrow services. A mortgage broker is generally a person who, on behalf of another person and for a commission, finds a mortgage loan. Typically, mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers are institutions, not individuals. There are several exemptions from the current definitions of "mortgage banker" and "mortgage broker," including certain lending institutions licensed by the division (licensed lenders).

This bill deletes the exemptions for licensed lenders, thereby requiring licensed lenders who engage in mortgage banking or mortgage brokering to be registered with the division. The bill requires these licensed lenders to obtain a registration no later than the 60th day after the bill becomes law.

Competency examinations and continuing education

This bill establishes competency examination and continuing education requirements applicable to certain agents of mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers. Current law does not contain any such requirements. This bill requires each mortgage banker and mortgage broker to designate at least one principal representative who is incharge of the business operations of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker. The bill requires each principal representative, each person who finds or negotiates a mortgage loan for or on behalf of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker and certain other agents of the mortgage banker or an application mortgage broker to pass a written test covering primary and subordinate mortgage financing transactions and the laws regulating mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers. These requirements must be satisfied as a condition of the division approving an application for registration as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker or for renewal of registration.

This bill also requires each mortgage banker and mortgage broker, as a condition of renewing to registration, to demonstrate that each principal representative, each person who finds or negotiates a mortgage lean for or on behalf of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker, and certain other agents of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker have successfully completed at least 14 hours of education covering primary and subordinate mortgage financing transactions and the laws regulating mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers. These hours of education must be completed during the two years preceding the date of the application for renewal of registration.

The division, by rule, must establish the content of the competency examination and program of continuing education and must establish standards for approving persons who administer the competency examination or provide the continuing education. In addition, the bill phases in the competency examination and continuing education requirements. Under the bill, the competency examination requirement first applies to persons who have applications pending with the division on July 2, 2002. The continuing education requirement first applies to applications for the registration period that begins on July 1, 2004.

Supervision of certain employees of mortgage bankers mortgage brokers

Current law specifies that mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers are responsible for, and must supervise, each person who finds or negotiates a mortgage loan for or on behalf of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker and certain other

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successfully complete

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employees of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker. This bill further provides that each principal representative of a mortgage banker or mortgage broker is responsible for and must supervise these persons. The bill also provides that, in certain limited circumstances, this duty of responsibility and supervision must be satisfied by each officer or director of, or owner of at least a 10% interest in, the business of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker.

Regulation of consumer brokerage agreements

This bill requires every brokerage agreement between a mortgage broker and a consumer to be in writing, in the form prescribed by rule of the division, and to contain all information required by rule of the division. Under the bill, the division must promulgate these rules for the purpose of facilitating the comparison of similar charges and total charges assessed by different mortgage brokers. The bill also requires a mortgage broker to give a consumer a disclosure statement which contains a brief explanation of the relationship between the consumer and the mortgage broker under the brokerage agreement and the manner in which the mortgage broker may be compensated, and any additional information required by rule of the division. The mortgage broker must explain the content of the disclosure statement and ensure that the consumer initials or signs the statement, acknowledging that the consumer has read and understands the statement. Under the bill, a consumer generally means an individual who seeks or acquires mortgage brokerage services for personal, family, or household purposes. Current law does not contain any similar provisions with regard to mortgage brokers.

Penalties and limitations on liability

This bill raises the maximum potential forfeiture (civil penalty) for certain violations of the mortgage banking and mortgage brokering laws from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and increases the maximum potential liability for these violations in certain private causes of action from \$1,000 to \$2,000. The bill also raises the maximum potential fine and imprisonment (criminal penalties) for violating a registration requirement under the mortgage banking and mortgage brokering laws from \$1,000 and six months to \$2,000 and nine months.

For further information see the **state** fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- **Section 1.** 224.71 (1c) of the statutes is renumbered 224.71 (1e).
- 2 Section 2. 224.71 (1d) of the statutes is created to read:

| 1 | 224.71 (1d) "Consumer" means a person other than an organization, as defined |
|----|---|
| 2 | in s. 421.301 (28), who seeks or acquires mortgage brokerage services for personal, |
| 3 | family, or household purposes. |
| 4 | SECTION 3. 224.71 (3) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read: |
| 5 | 224.71 (3) (b) 2. A credit union which negotiates loans or any licensee under |
| 6 | ch. 138 which negotiates loans or any licensed attorney who, incidental to the general |
| 7 | practice of law, negotiates or offers or attempts to negotiate a loan. |
| 8 | SECTION 4. 224.71 (4) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read: |
| 9 | 224.71 (4) (b) 2. A credit union which negotiates loans or any licensee under |
| 10 | ch. 138 which negotiates loans or any licensed attorney who, incidental to the general |
| 11 | practice of law, negotiates or offers or attempts to negotiate a loan. |
| 12 | SECTION 5. 224.71 (4m) of the statutes is created to read: |
| 13 | 224.71 (4m) "Principal representative" means an individual that is in charge |
| 14 | of the business operations of a mortgage banker or mortgage broker. |
| 15 | SECTION 6. 224.72 (4) (title) of the statutes is amended to read: LOAN ORIGINATOR |
| 16 | 224.72 (c) (title) Additional requirement requirements for the transfer of the second states of the second |
| 17 | APPLICANT. |
| 18 | SECTION 7. 224.72 (4) (a) (title) of the statutes is amended to read: |
| 19 | 224.72 (4) (a) (title) With Special requirement for applicant with a bona fide |
| 20 | office. |
| 21 | SECTION 8. 224.72 (4) (d) (title) of the statutes is amended to read: |
| 22 | 224.72 (4) (d) (title) Without Special requirement for applicant without a bona |
| 23 | fide office. (3)(b) (5) |
| 24 | SECTION 9. 224.72 (A) (2) And (4) of the statutes are created to read: |
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224.72 (4) (e) Competendy examination. In addition to the requirements of sub. (2) and place that, Of the Company of the state of the st will part of the applicant for registration as a proper backet and cache loan originator employed by the applicant shall pass a written test covering primary and subordinate mortgage financing transactions and the provisions of this subchapter. The test shall be administered by the division's designee and shall comply with the applicable rules promulgated by the division under sub. (7p).

(f) Identity of principal representative. In addition to the requirements of sub. (2) and pars. (a), (d), and (e), as applicable, each applicant for registration as a mortgage banker shall designate at least one principal representative and shall document that the principal representative accepts the designation. If an applicant fails to make any designation under this paragraph, or if each designation is inaccurate or incomplete, each officer or director of, or owner of at least a 10% interest in, the business of the mortgage banker is deemed to be in charge of the business operations of the mortgage banker. If a person ceases to act as a principal representative, the mortgage banker shall file an amended designation under this paragraph with the division no later than the 7th day following the date on which the person ceases to act, unless the mortgage banker designated multiple principal representatives and at least one continues to act.

SECTION 10. 224/12 (4m) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.72 (4m) (title) Additional requirement requirements for mortgage BROKER APPLICANT.

SECTION 11. 224.72 (4m) (a) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.72 (4m) (a) (title) With a Special requirement for applicant with bona fide

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office.

SECTION 12. 224.72 (4m) (b) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.72 (4m) (b) (title) Without a Special requirement for applicant without bona fide office.

SECTION 13. 224.72 (4m) (c) and (d) of the statutes are created to read:

224.72 (4m) (c) Competency examination. In addition to the requirements of sub. (2) and pars. (a), (b), and (d), as applicable, each principal representative designated under par. (d) by an applicant for registration as a mortgage broker and each loan originator employed by the applicant shall pass a written test covering primary and subordinate mortgage financing transactions and the provisions of this subchapter. The test shall be administered by the division's designee and shall comply with the applicable rules promulgated by the division under sub. (7p).

(d) Identity of principal representative. In addition to the requirements of sub.

(2) and pars. (a), (b), and (c), as applicable, each applicant for registration as a mortgage broker shall designate at least one principal representative and shall document that the principal representative accepts the designation. If an applicant fails to make any designation under this paragraph, or if each designation is inaccurate or incomplete, each officer or director of, or owner of at least a 10% interest in, the business of the mortgage broker is deemed to be in charge of the business operations of the mortgage broker. If a person ceases to act as a principal representative, the mortgage broker shall file an amended designation under this paragraph with the division no later than the 7th day following the date on which the person ceases to act, unless the mortgage broker designated multiple principal representatives and at least one continues to act.

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SECTION 16

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| 1, 2 3 | 4. Designate at least one principal representative, as provided under sub. (4m) (d). 5. Satisfy the competency examination requirements provided under sub. (4m) |
|--------------|--|
| 5 | SECTION 17. 224.72 (7p) of the statutes is created to read: |
| 6 | 224.72 (7p) Rules for competency examination and continuing education |

224.72 (7p) Rules for competency examination and continuing education requirements. The division shall promulgate rules establishing requirements for all of the following:

(a) The content of examinations in the law of mertgage banking and mortgage brokering under subs (4) (e) and (4m) (e) and the curricula of education under sub. (7)

(b) The approval of any persons who administer examinations under stabs (4)

SECTION 18. 224.73 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.73 (1) Responsibility for loan originator. A mortgage banker or a mortgage broker, and each principal representative designated by the mortgage banker or mortgage broker or each person deemed to be in charge of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker under s. 224.72 (4) (f) or (4m) (d), is responsible for, and shall supervise the acts of, a loan originator who registers under s. 224.72 (3) as an employee of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker. A mortgage banker or mortgage broker is also responsible for, and shall supervise the acts of, a loan originator or any other person who otherwise acts on behalf of the mortgage banker

or the mortgage broker.

SECTION 19. 224.73 (21an) of the statutes is created to read:

2001 – 2002 Legislature Bold, no small caps **BILL** 724.755 to CONTINUING EDUCATION RECORDS. A MORE CONTINUING EDUCATION RECORDS. 2 shall keep records documenting compliance with s. 224.72 (7) 3 as applicable, for at least 4 years. SECTION 20. 224.77 (1m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read: 4 224.77 (1m) (a) The division may assess against a person who is registered 5 under this chapter a forfeiture of not more than \$1,000 \$2,000 for each violation 6 enumerated under sub. (1) (a) to (o) or (r). 7 8 **Section 21.** 224.79 of the statutes is created to read: 9 224.79 Consumer mortgage brokerage agreements and consumer disclosures. (1) Form and content of consumer mortgage brokerage agreements. 10 Every contract between a mortgage broker and a consumer under which the 11 mortgage broker agrees to provide brokerage services to the consumer shall be in 12 writing, in the form prescribed by rule of the division, and shall contain all 13 information required by rule of the division. The division shall promulgate rules to 14 15 administer this subsection. The division shall design these rules to facilitate the comparison of similar charges and total charges assessed by different mortgage 16 17 brokers. (2) Consumer disclosure statement. Before entering into a contract with a 18 consumer to provide brokerage services, a mortgage broker shall give the consumer 19 a copy of a consumer disclosure statement, explain the content of the statement, and 20 ensure that the consumer initials or signs the statement, acknowledging that the 21 consumer has read and understands the statement. The consumer disclosure 22 statement shall contain a brief explanation of the relationship between the consumer 23 and the mortgage broker under the proposed contract, a brief explanation of the 24

manner in which the mortgage broker may be compensated under the proposed

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contract, and any additional information required by rule of the division. The division shall promulgate rules to administer this subsection and, by rule, shall specify the form and content of the consumer disclosure statement required under this subsection.

Section 22. 224.80 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

224.80 (1) PENALTIES. A person who violates s. 224.72 (1m) may be fined not more than \$1,000 \$2,000 or imprisoned for not more than 6 9 months or both. The district attorney of the county where the violation occurs shall enforce the penalty under this subsection on behalf of the state.

SECTION 23. 224.80 (2) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

224.80 (2) (a) 1. Twice the amount of the cost of loan origination connected with the transaction, except that the liability under this subdivision may not be less than \$100 nor greater than \$1,000 \$2,000 for each violation.

SECTION 24. Nonstatutory provisions.

(1) Principal representatives of current registrants and applicants. Each person that, on the effective date of this subsection, holds a certificate of registration as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker, issued by the division of banking in the department of financial institutions, or has an application for such a certificate of registration pending with the division shall file with the division a designation of principal representative no later than than the 30th day following the effective date of this subsection. The designation required under this subsection shall be in the form prescribed by the division. In this subsection, "principal representative" has the meaning given in section 224.71 (4m) of the statutes, as created by this act.

REGISTRATION OF FORMERLY EXEMPT PERSONS. Notwithstanding section 224.72 (1m) of the statutes, any licensee under chapter 138 of the statutes that satisfies the

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| definition of "mortgage banker" or "mortgage broker" under section 224.71 (3) or (4) |
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| of the statutes, as affected by this act, shall apply for a certificate of registration |
| under section 224.72 of the statutes, as affected by this act, no later than the 60th |
| day following the effective date of this subsection. |

Position increase. The authorized FTE positions for the department of financial institutions are increased by 2.0 PR positions, to be funded from the appropriation under section 20.144 (1) (g) of the statutes, for the purpose of administering section 224.72 of the statutes, as affected by this act.

SECTION 25. Initial applicability.

and (7) (6) 5 and (6) 5 of the statutes first applies to applications for a certificate of registration as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker that are pending with the division of banking on July 2, 2002.

of the statutes first applies to applications for a certificate of registration as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker for the registration period beginning July 1, 2004.

As you review the

draft

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

December 6, 2001

This draft retains
This draft regulating
The provisions regulating
The provision regulating
The provisi

apply the draft only to loan

Representative Jeskewitz:

Attached is the mortgage banker/broker draft you requested. I have based this draft on DFI's comments and suggestions, which you provided to me Please note that the language provided by DFI is not entirely included in this draft. I have tried to clarify the language, where possible, and have also tried to integrate the language into the existing statutory scheme. You may want to have DFI review the draft to make sure that I did not misunderstand their intent. In particular, please note the following:

1. The items concerning the designation of a principal representative have been integrated into the application process under s. 224.72, stats. I have also included a nonstatutory provision governing current registrants and applicants. Please let me know if these provisions are not consistent with your intent.

Under proposed s. 224.72 (4) (e) and and (4m) (d), if a designation of principal representative is inaccurate, incomplete, or not made, each officer or director of, or owner of at least a 10% interest in, the business of the mortgage banker or broker is deemed to be in charge of the banker's or broker's business operations. In most, if not all, cases a mortgage banker or broker will have officers or directors and owners. The proposed language does not indicate how to determine whether the officers or directors or the owners will be deemed to be in charge. Should the proposed language read instead "each officer or director of and each owner of at least a 10% interest in the business"?

The principal representative language given to me by DFI contained the following: "(FI has a one-year experience requirement)." I do not know what, if anything, this language is intended to convey. Please let me know if I should have included something in the draft based upon this language.

Please review proposed s. 224.73 (1). I expanded the treatment to more fully reflect the content of the principal representative provisions.

2. I assumed that the competency examination language provided by DFI was intended to replace the language in the "/1" version of the draft. As a result, please note that this draft no longer exempts from examination persons who are registered for at least three years. In order to preserve this exemption, you may want to exempt any person who passed the examination as part of the mortgage banker's or mortgage broker's previous application.

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The language provided by DFI indicated that the competency examination requirements first apply "after July 1, 2002" (i.e., on July 2, 2002). I have drafted this item as an initial applicability provision. Please review the provision to ensure that it is consistent with your intent. Any applications acted on by the division through the close of business on July 1, 2002, would be exempt from the competency examination requirements proposed in the draft.

3. The materials provided by DFI indicated that DFI estimates a need for at least 20 new full-time employees to administer the mortgage banking and brokering law, as affected by this draft. This bill provides 2.0 FTE PR positions for this purpose.

4. Your redraft instructions noted that you were considering address two additional issues. And eliminating the exemption for licensed lenders more uniform. This draft eliminates exemption for licensed lenders and gives licensed lenders who are currently exempt 60 days to apply for a certificate of registration. In addition due to the language proposed by DFI, this draft imposes examination and intrinsical duration requirements on both nortgage bankers and mortgage brokers.

Please feel free to call with any questions or if you desire any changes to the draft.

Robert J. Marchant Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 261–4454

E-mail: robert.marchant@legis.state.wi.us

this .

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-3642/3dn RJM:cjs:rs

December 7, 2001

Representative Jeskewitz:

Attached is the mortgage banker/broker draft you requested. I have based this draft on DFI's comments and suggestions, which you provided to me and your instruction to apply the draft only to loan originators. As you review the draft, please note the following:

- 1. This draft retains the provisions regulating consumer brokerage agreements. These provisions apply to mortgage brokers. Please let me know if I have misunderstood your intent.
- 2. I assumed that the competency examination language provided by DFI was intended to replace the language in the "/1" version of the draft. As a result, please note that this draft no longer exempts from examination persons who are registered for at least three years.

The language provided by DFI indicated that the competency examination requirements first apply "after July 1, 2002" (i.e., on July 2, 2002). I have drafted this item as an initial applicability provision. Please review the provision to ensure that it is consistent with your intent. Any applications acted on by the division through the close of business on July 1, 2002, would be exempt from the competency examination requirements proposed in the draft.

- 3. The materials provided by DFI indicated that DFI estimates a need for at least two new full—time employees to administer the mortgage banking and brokering law, as affected by this draft. This bill provides 2.0 FTE PR positions for this purpose.
- 4. Your redraft instructions noted that you were considering eliminating the exemption for licensed lenders. This draft eliminates this exemption and gives licensed lenders who are currently exempt 60 days to apply for a certificate of registration.

Please feel free to call with any questions or if you desire any changes to the draft.

Robert J. Marchant Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 261–4454

E-mail: robert.marchant@legis.state.wi.us

Emery, Lynn

From: Emery, Lynn

Sent: Monday, December 10, 2001 11:38 AM

To: Rep.Jeskewitz

Subject: LRB-3642/3 (attached as requested)

Lynn Emery

Lynn Emery - Program Asst. (PH. 608-266-3561) (E-Mail: lynn.emery@legis.state.wi.us) (FAX: 608-264-6948)

Legislative Reference Bureau - Legal Section - Front Office 100 N. Hamilton Street - 5th Floor Madison, WI 53703

Marchant, Robert

From:

Marchant, Robert

Sent:

Wednesday, February 06, 2002 4:10 PM

To:

Bilot, Erin

Subject:

RE: Mortgage Brokers-Draft

Erin--

(TCF EM 2-7-02)

Treceived your request for additional changes. I have a couple of questions, though. I left you a message to call me, but you might want to reflect upon these questions before you do.

1. By "commercial banks" do you mean the banking institutions described in s. 224.71 (3) (b) 1. and (4) (b) 1., stats., and credit unions described in s. 224.71 (3) (b) 2. and (4) (b) 2., stats.?

2. There are three possible interpretations of the redraft instructions. I'll list them in order from most limited to most sweeping. Which one do you intend?

a Exempt loan originators who are employed by subsidiaries of commercial banks from the continuing education

requirements established under the bill.

b. Exempt loan originators who are employed by subsidiaries of commercial banks from all registration requirements applicable under current law.

c. Exempt all subsidiaries of commercial banks that engage in mortgage banking or mortgage brokering (and, consequently, the loan originators employed by current law.

Please feel free to call if you'd like to discuss these questions. I can't proceed with the redraft until I hear further from you. If you are able to get back to me on Thursday by mid-afternoon or thereabouts, I should have a chance to get you the redraft in time for the hearing on the 14th. I look forward to hearing from you.

Rob

-----Original Message-----

From:

Bilot, Erin

Sent:

Wednesday, February 06, 2002 3:06 PM

To:

Marchant, Robert

Cc: Subject:

'peggypm@patrickessie.com' Mortgage Brokers Draft

Rob.

I'm surprised that you haven't put a block on my e-mails yet. I have yet another addition to the mortgage brokers legislation (LRB 3642/3). I'd sent you an earlier e-mail asking for two changes to continuing ed. and license renewal. Anyway, there was a concern raised and we would like to know if there was language that you could add that would ensure that licensed loan originators that work for subsidiaries of commercial loan banks would not be subject to this new legislation (the licensed loan originators of the commercial bank are not covered by this bill - we just want to ensure that their subsidiaries aren't covered either). Is that possible?

Also, just as an FYI, we're going to hold a hearing on the LRB that we have on Thursday, February 14th. After that hearing and before the exec we'll have the new draft introduced as a substitute amendment. (Unless you really are superman and can get the new draft to us before then, but I'd be amazed!) Just thought I'd let you know what our time frame is. Also, we're going to try and get Sen. Erpenbach to be the Senate lead of a companion bill, so you may be getting a call from them.

Thanks again for everything.

Erin

Erin Bilot Office of Suzanne Jeskewitz State Representative 24th Assembly District